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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
Research and Analysis Branch

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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STUDY OF PROPAGANDA THEMES TO DENMARK

10 December 1941

I. The Political Party Structure of Denmark (as of 1939)

CABINET

Coalition (Social Democratic and Radical Parties)
Reconstructed September 15, 1939

PREMIER

TH. STAUNING (Social Democrat)

PARLIAMENT
(Rigsdag)

Upper Chamber
(Landsting)

Election of April 3, 1939*

Speaker: C. F. Sörensen (Social Dem)

Parties	Representation
Social Democratic	35
Liberal	18
Conservative	13
Radical	8
Faroe Representative	1
Peasants' Party	1
Total	76

* Term eight years, 19 members elected by Chamber itself. Half the remainder elected every fourth year.

Lower Chamber
(Folketing)

Election of April 3, 1939 (for 4 Years)

Speaker: Hans Rasmussen (Social Dem)

Parties	Representation
Social Democratic	64
Liberal	30
Conservative	26
Peasants' Party	14
Justice League	4
Communist	3
National Socialist	3
Faroe Representative	3
Slesvig	1
Total	149

PARTY PROGRAMS AND LEADERS

Social Democratic Party: Represents mainly laborers; has always been closely connected with trade unions and consumers' cooperative movement, and derives one-third of its strength from farm workers and small landholders in country districts. In foreign policy, favors the League of Nations, international arbitration, and maintenance of present defense system until universal disarmament can be carried through. In domestic policy, advocates a constitutional socialist program for government control of industry and trade, restriction of imports through exchange regulations, progressive taxation of wealth, industrial councils, protection of labor, and limitation of working day, unemployment benefits and medical and legal aid to workers, parcelling out of big estates and public leasing to smallholders, universal direct suffrage for men and women over 23, and constitutional re-

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form replacing the Rigsdag (Folketing and Landsting) by a new bi-cameral system based on one election only; age limit of all electors to be reduced to 23 years (as against present 25 years for Folketing and 35 years for Landsting).

Leaders: Th. Stauning (Premier), Vilhelm Buhl (Minister of Finance), Hartvig Frisch (Leader in the Lower Chamber), Alsing Andersen (Minister of Defense), J. Kjaerbøl (Minister of Trade), Kr. Bording (Minister of Agriculture), S. Unmack-Larsen (Minister of Justice), Arel I. Sörensen (Minister of Public Works), Johannes Hansen (Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs), Ludwig Christensen (Minister of Social Welfare), C. F. Sörensen (Speaker of Upper Chamber), Hans Rasmussen (Speaker of Lower Chamber) and H. C. Hedtoft-Hansen (Chairman of Party).

Liberal Party: Usually called "Left Party"; represents mainly farmers, landowners, and business and professional groups in the country. In foreign policy, favors coöperation with the League and arbitration of international disputes. In domestic policy, favors a defense system based on compulsory enlistment sufficient to assure neutrality and the discharge of League obligations; stands for monarchy, maintenance of state church, religious teaching in primary schools and state subsidy to private schools, present Constitution and bicameral system, free trade under ad valorem tariff for revenue only, individualism as against socialism in industry and business, government taxation on real property, reduction of taxation by strict economy especially in social expenditures and state aid to small purchasers in acquiring farms as freeholders.

Leaders: Th. Madsen-Mygdal (Chairman of Party, formerly Premier), O. Krag (formerly Minister of Home Affairs), H. Hauch (Leader in Upper Chamber), I. P. Stensballe (formerly Minister of Public Works), S. Brorsen (Leader in Lower Chamber), J. S. Vanggaard and K. Kristensen (Members of Lower Chamber).

Conservative Party: Represents all occupational and population groups in town and country. In foreign policy, nationalistic and neutral vis a vis foreign entaglements, but favors coöperation with other Scandinavian countries including agreement for defense. In domestic policy, demands an effective defense of neutrality based on general conscription; defends Christian instruction in public schools; stands for protection of private property, protective tariff against unfair foreign competition, sound fiscal policies, lower taxation, compulsory social insurance and scope for private initiative.

Leaders: V. Fibiger (Chairman of Party), J. Christmas Möller, Alfred Bindslev, H. Hasle (Leader in Lower Chamber), P. Korsgaard, Ole Björn Kraft, A. C. D. Petersen (Lower Chamber), Axel B. Lange, Halfdan Hendriksen (Leader in Upper Chamber), H. Stein and C. J. F. Sven (Upper Chamber).

Radical Party: Also called "The Radical Left Party"; represents mainly small property owners and landholders, and certain intellectual and professional circles in the towns. In foreign policy, favors arbitration of international controversies and League of Nations. In domestic policy, advocates voluntary military service; stands for religious freedom; coöperates with Social Democratic Party in fundamental democratic reforms, such as protection of consumers against monopolies, state aid in purchase of land by small holders and public leasing, and development of small enterprises in industry and trade; favors free trade on universal basis, reduction of indirect taxes on necessities and progressive direct income and property taxation for social purposes, industrial peace if necessary by state intervention, political and legal equality for women and the coöperative principle.

Leaders: P. Munch (Minister of Foreign Affairs), Bertel Dahlgaard (Minister of Home Affairs), A. M. Hansen (Leader in Lower Chamber), V. Vejstrup (Leader in Upper Chamber) and Jørgen Jørgensen (Minister of Education).

Justice League: Advocates Henry George doctrine of single tax on land to replace all other taxation; favors abolition of compulsory military service, separation of church and state, free trade, government by the people with voting power for each representative proportionate to vote received, freedom of education and religion and reduction of state activities.

Leader: P. Gregersen.

Peasants' Party: Organized in 1934 by split in the Liberal Party; defends agrarian interests.

Leader: Viggo Thomsen.

Communist Party: Accepts program of 3d Internationale. Represented in Parliament for first time in 1932.

Leader: Axel Larsen.

Slesvig Party: Represents the German faction in the part of Slesvig ceded to Denmark by plebiscite.

Leader: Jens Möller.

National Socialist Party: Has same fundamental principles as the German National Socialist Party.

Leader: Frits Clausen.

(Ref: Political Handbook of the World, 1940 pp. 45-47)

Votes Cast in Election of April 3, 1939.

	Landsting	Folketing
Peasants' Party	35,835	50,829
Communists	21,470	40,893
Conservatives	236,075	301,625
Radicals	125,131	161,834
Social Democrats.	509,134	729,619
Liberals	248.495	309,355
Others	56,581	- - - -
National Socialists		31,032
Justice League		33,783
Danish Union		8,553
National Cooperation . . .		17,350
Slesvig		15,016
Total Votes Cast 1,232,721		1,699,889

(Ref: Statistik Aarbog 1939; Table 185, pp. 176-177).

II. Religious Groups in Denmark.

The latest precise figures are for 1921. There is no reason to suspect, however, that there has been any significant shift in the relative proportions of group membership:

Evangelical Lutheran (National Church)	3,200,372
Roman Catholic	22,137
Baptists	6,989
Jews	5,947
Methodists	4,858
Irvingites	3,459
Adventists	2,622
Reformed	1,164
Hernhutten	463
Anglican	409
Unitarian	195
Quakers	13
Other Protestants	1,299
Greek Catholics	535
Mormons	487
Other Christian groups	196
Other religions	3,942
Without Affiliation	12,744

(Ref: Nordisk Familjebok, page 459)

III. Occupational Distribution of Danish Population.

The following summary is based on data as of 1930. It comprises the whole population, i.e., both those gainfully employed and their dependents:

	Men	Women	Total
Agriculture, horticulture, forestry and fisheries	613,800	503,600	1,117,400
Handicrafts and industry	552,500	479,800	1,032,300
Commerce and financial operations	191,800	194,400	386,200
Traffic and commission business	134,800	119,300	254,100
Administrative occupations, art and science	99,100	107,400	206,500
Domestic, etc.	17,600	199,100	216,700
Inactives	126,700	210,800	337,500
Total	1,736,300	1,814,400	3,550,700

(Ref: Denmark, Royal Danish Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Danish Statistical Department, Copenhagen, 1939, page 20).

Following is the detailed breakdown of professions alone:

	Wage Earners	Dependents
Public Administration	6,694	10,862
Justice and Police	4,342	8,894
Army and Marines	6,577	4,053
Clergy, etc.	4,160	6,842
Teachers	21,094	20,826
Medicine	22,762	10,486
Arts and Letters	11,677	12,548
Students, etc.	14,972	145
Lawyers	5,269	7,518
Subordinate Persons	8,399	3,098
Various aides	5,277	6,944
Total	111,223	92,216

(Ref: Statistik Aarbog 1939, Liberal Professions, Public Servants etc., as of Nov. 5, 1930, page 20, Table 13).

IV. Racial Groups in Denmark.

The Danes maintain that they have an extremely homogeneous population of "Gotho-Germanic" origin. Total population today is probably around 3,800,000. Of this, some 10,600 may be Jews, this number being due to the influx of refugees in the 1930's.

The following information on national origins is available: Meyers Konversations-Lexikon indicates that there are in Denmark some 40,000 Germans, centering around Tondern in North Schleswig. The Danish Statistik Aarbog 1939, Table 7, page 6, indicates population by country of birth, where that country is not Denmark:*

Sweden	31,379
Germany	29,994
Poland	5,242
Norway	6,242
Russia	2,398
Great Britain	1,872
Other European lands .	5,320
United States	2,775
Rest of the world . .	3,314
Total foreign . . .	88,536

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* Data for 1930